

### **Remarks**

Claims 1 to 25, 28 to 33 and 35 to 41 are pending in the current application. Claim 24 has been amended. Claim 41 is to be cancelled per this after final amendment.

Applicants have amended claim 24 to render it dependent from claim 1. The wording presented herein corresponds to the wording of claim 1 set forth in the preliminary amendment submitted with the application on October 31, 2005. Claim 24 as presented on October 31, 2005 did not present any §112 issues (see Office Action of March 26, 2007).

Applicants submit that the amendments presented herein reduce the number of issues for appeal. In particular, the basis for the 35 USC §112 rejection has been removed. Since claim 24 is now dependent from claim 1, the 35 USC §102 rejection has become moot.

Thus, the present amendment reduces the number of issues for appeal (with the 35 USC §103(a) rejection being the only remaining rejection) and only requires cursory review by the Office.

Thus, favorable consideration and entry of the amendments are respectfully requested.

No fees are believed to be due. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee deficiencies or overpayment to the undersign's deposit account 50-3135.

Respectfully submitted,

/Joyce v. Natzmer/

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